Act 17
Master's
Attacking
Fist

カサ

2

AQUA VITAE.
I FOUND IT...!
MAS-TER PANTA-LONEE ...
SILVER WATER SHINING A PALE RED...
HEH HEH HEH ...

ACC-
ORDING
TO THIS
BOOK...

TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO, AFTER HE DESTROYED MY VILLAGE, JIN RETURNED HERE, TO THE PLACE WHERE HE WAS BORN.
THE AUTOMATA WERE CREATED BY A MAN NAMED JIN.

3

BUT ONE THING IS CERTAIN.
WHO KNOWS WHAT HE WAS THINKING! HE WAS INSANE.
HUH ?

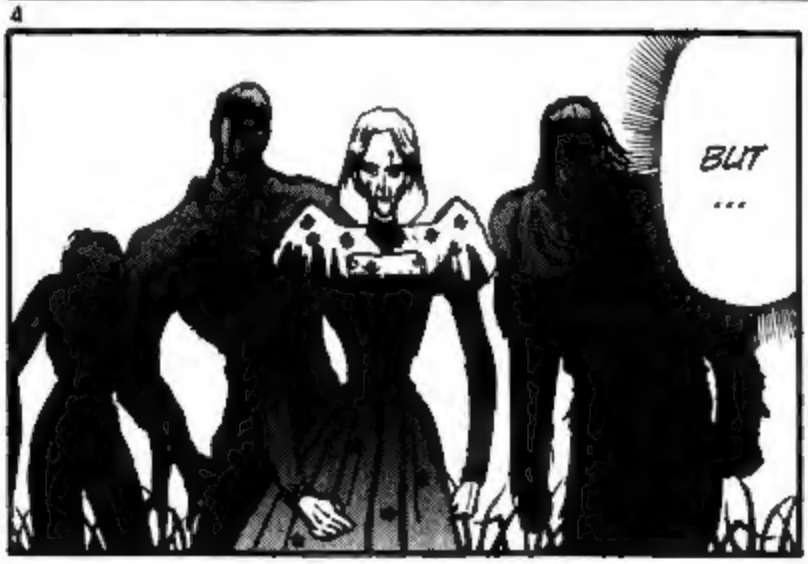
THERE SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ANY REASON FOR HIM TO...
WHAT ON EARTH DID HE DO THAT FOR?
W-WAIT A SECOND, OLD WOMAN.

...HIS INTENTION WAS TO CREATE A SPRING OF AQUA VITAE HERE AND DISSOLVE HIMSELF INTO IT.
HE CAME HERE TO DIE.

IT WOULD SEEM SO, ACCORDING TO THE BOOK.

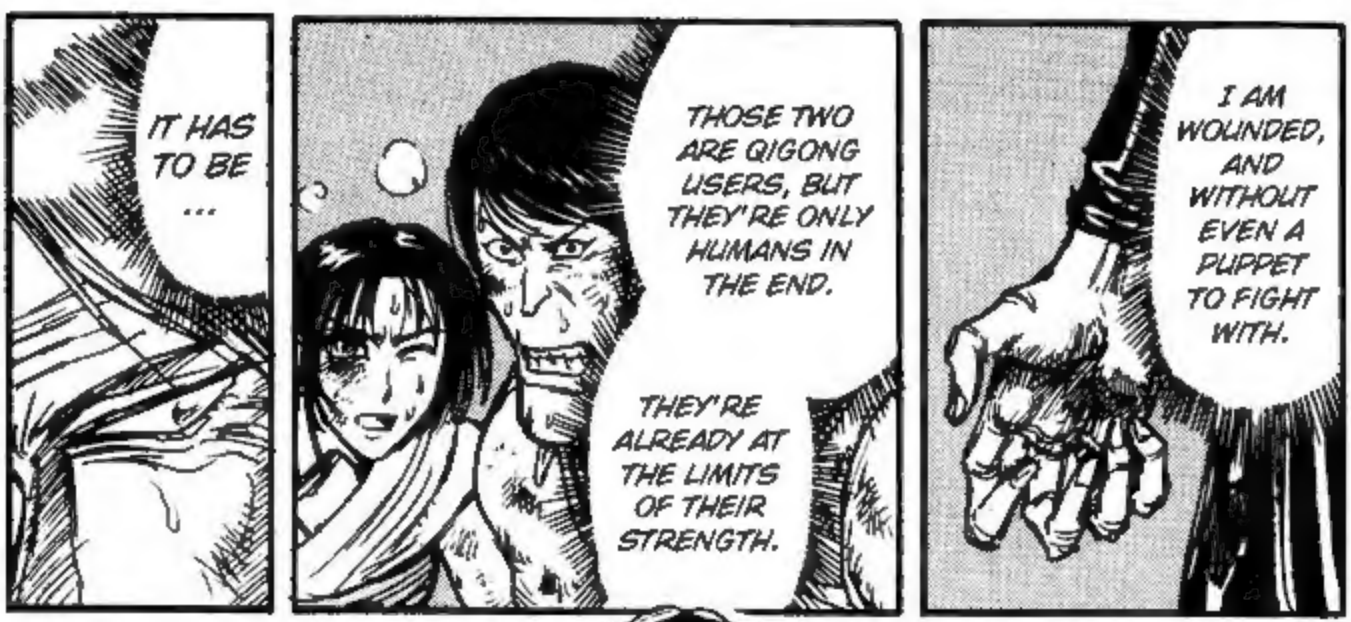
...AND SO THAT'S THE WATERFALL WHERE DAD IS RIGHT NOW?
... REALLY ...?

AGAINST UNARMED HUMANS, THEY HAVE ONLY EVER BEEN ABLE TO MOVE AT SPEEDS MATCHING THOSE OF A HUMAN. THAT REQUIREMENT WILL BE OVERTURNED!
THE ONLY WAY FOR THE SHIROGANE TO WIN WILL VANISH COMPLETELY.
THIS IS BAD! IF THE DOLLS DRINK THE AQUA VITAE ...


BUT ...

NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES, WE MUST STOP PANTALONE AND THE OTHERS FROM DRINKING THE AQUA VITAE!

WILL WE BE ABLE ...
TO STOP THEM ?!


IT HAS TO BE ...
THOSE TWO ARE QIGONG USERS, BUT THEY'RE ONLY HUMANS IN THE END.
THEY'RE ALREADY AT THE LIMITS OF THEIR STRENGTH.
I AM WOUNDED, AND WITHOUT EVEN A PUPPET TO FIGHT WITH.

5

BUT... HOW?!
NARUMI.
WE NEED HIS POWER.

HOW CAN WE AWAKEN THE MAN TRAPPED ...
DEEP WITHIN MASTER SHIRO-GANE'S MEMORIES ?!

DAD!

Y-YEAH... THIS IS WHERE MASTER IS!
YOU SAID... DAD IS AT THE SPRING... AT THE TOP OF THIS SUMMIT, RIGHT?

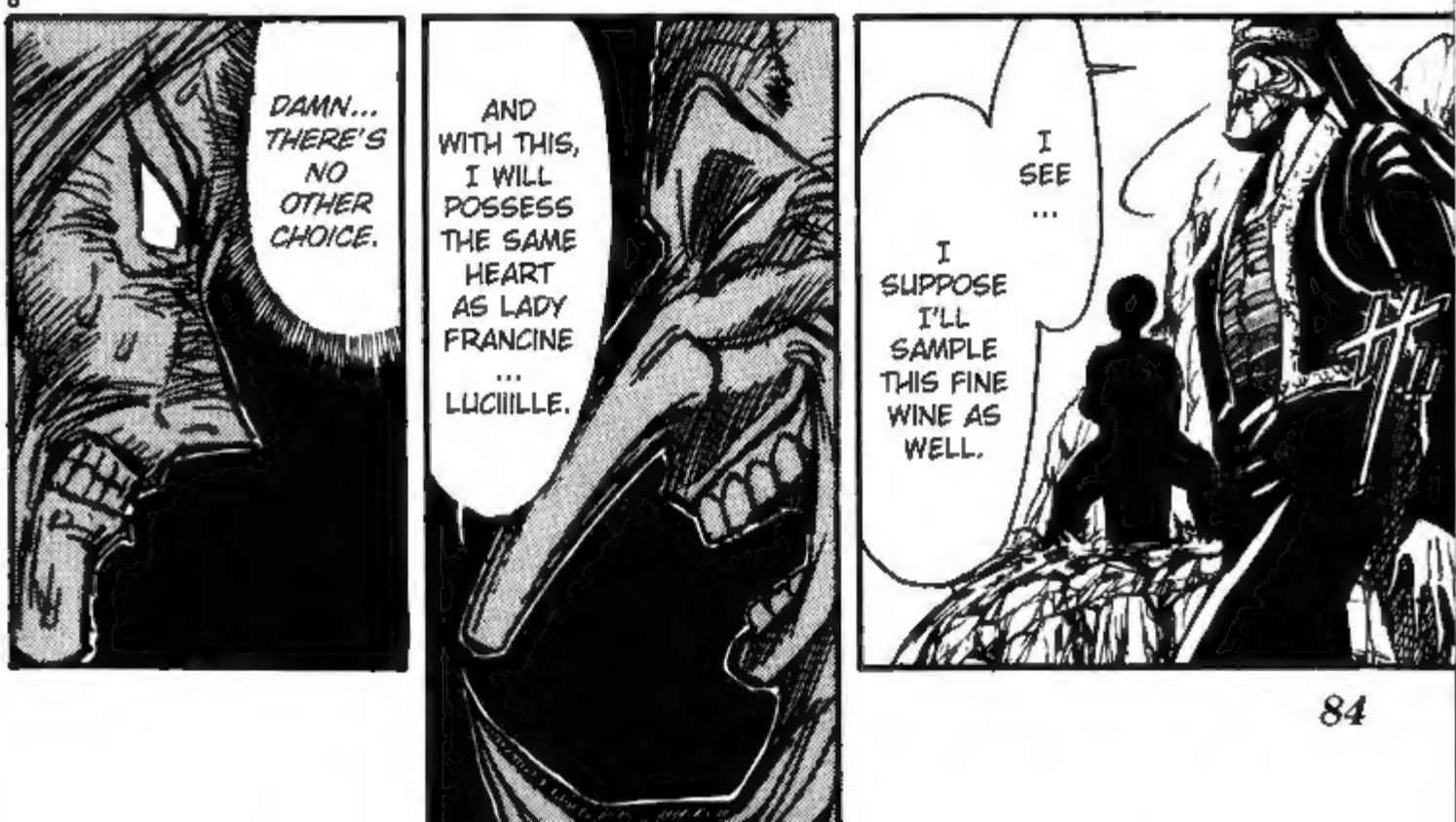
OH, LUCIIILLE... YOU'RE TOO LATE.

!

BY THE TIME THEY ARRIVED AT THE SPRING, IT WAS TOO LATE...
THE POISON TASTER CHINA HOU...
HAD ALREADY DRUNK PLENTY OF THE AQUA VITAE.
TELL US HOW YOU FEEL.
HAH ...
ガキ
カキ
HA AAA AH ...
コキ

HA AA AH ...
I FEEL JUUUST GREAT ...!
はあああ
WE WERE TOO LATE ...
...!
DAD... ISN'T HERE...

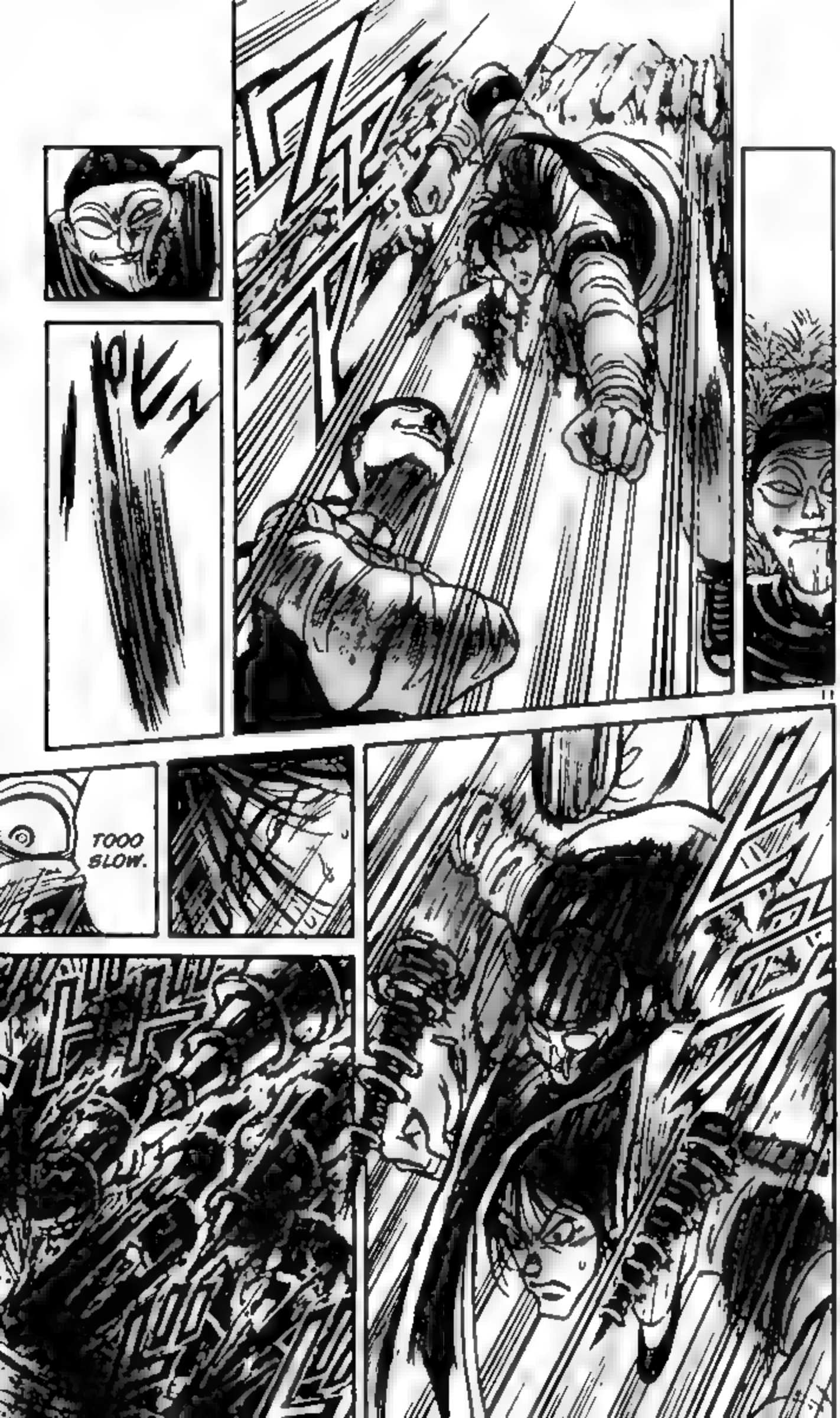
8


DAMN... THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE.
AND WITH THIS, I WILL POSSESS THE SAME HEART AS LADY FRANCINE ... LUCIIILLE.
I SEE ...
I SUPPOSE I'LL SAMPLE THIS FINE WINE AS WELL.

WHERE'S MASTER ?!
WHAT DID YOU DO TO MY DAD ?!
THAT ISN'T GOING TO HAPPEN, PANTALONE !
THAT'S RIGHT.
THIS SUPREME LIQUOR DEMANDS TO BE TASTED IN SILENCE.
BE QUIET.
9

EVEN A SHIRO-GANE... CAN'T BEAT HIM!!

HE'S... FAST... THIS... IS THE RESULT...
OF THE AQUA VITAE ...?


TOOO SLOW.

GUOOOH!
DAMN... MY BODY WON'T ...
... DAD ...
MI... MING-HAI...
IT'S NO GOOD.
... STOP ...
HA HA HA HA! WELL DONE, CHINA HOU. WELL DONE INDEED.
NOW I CAN SAVOR THIS AT MY LEISURE.
NO!
NOW ...

I FORBID YOU TO DRINK THAT...
DOLL.
AND WHO ARE YOU?
I AM THE TEACHER OF THOSE INCOM-PETENT STUDENTS WHO WERE DEFEATED JUST NOW BY A DOLL.
ゴロ

DAMN YOU!
AM I BEING INSULTED BY A PIECE OF WOOD DRESSED IN OLD RAGS?
FOOL! HOW DO YOU PLAN TO STOP ME? YOU ARE A MERE HUMAN, AND A DECREPIT OLD MAN BESIDES.

I-IM...
POSSIBLE...

YOU MAY NOT BE HUMAN, BUT IT SEEMS YOUR TWO FEET STILL SEEK THE GROUND.

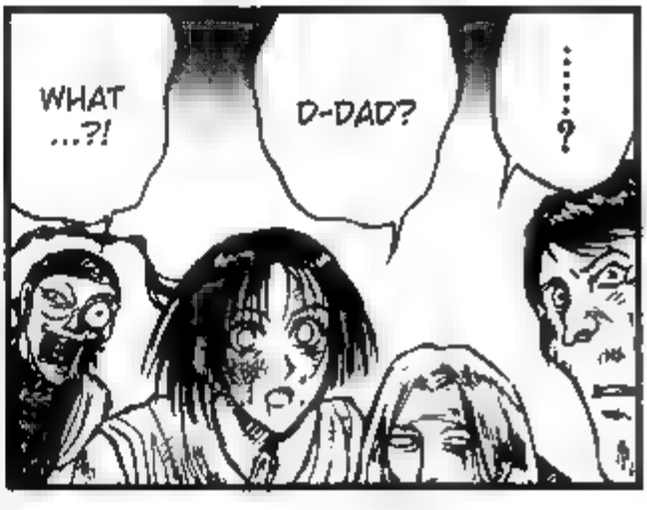
...M-MASTER PANTA-LONEEE ...!

D-DAD!!
M-MASTER !
... THAT WAS A SUR-PRISE.

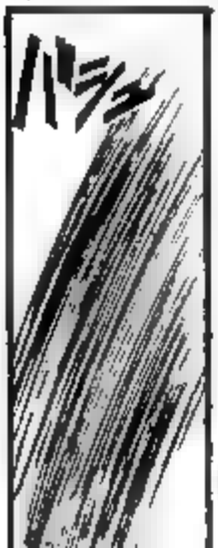
THAT WAS A PRETTY SHAMEFUL DISPLAY ON YOUR PARTS.
BUT... ALL THINGS CONSIDERED ...

STAND UP!
ESPECIALLY YOURS, MING-HAI.

LOOK OVER HERE...! I'LL KILL THE LIKES OF YOU IN NO TIME...!!


WHAT ...?!
D-DAD?
.....?

WHAT VISIONS HAVE MADE YOU FORGET YOUR KENPO TRAINING?

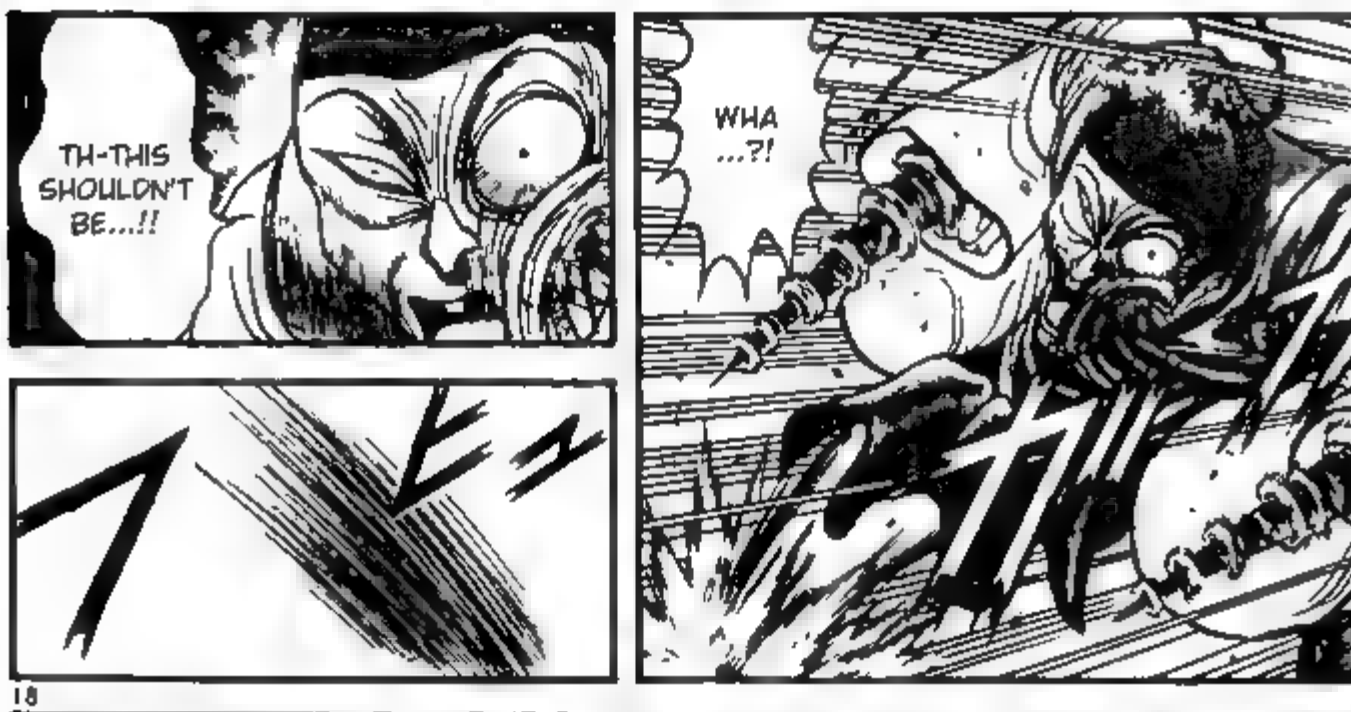

バシッ

EE EE EE ...!
I'M GONNA KILL YOU!

NO MATTER HOW VIVID THIS OTHER PERSON'S MEMORY MAY BE, YOU CANNOT LET IT RULE YOU.
WHY HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN WHO YOU ARE?

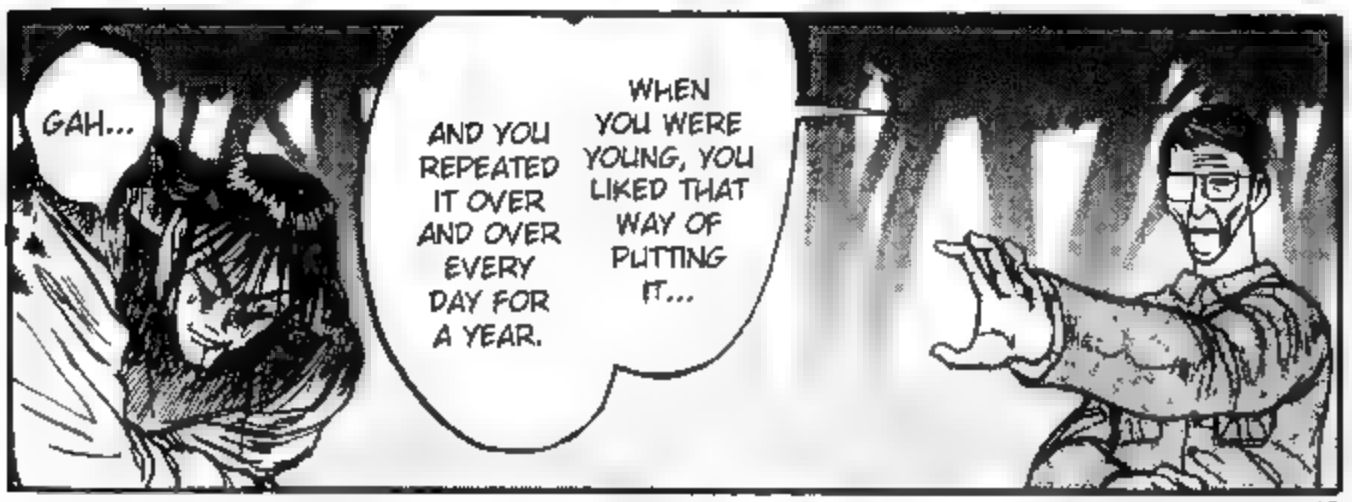
HE HE VAN-ISHED!
DAD LOOK OUT!

DO YOU REMEMBER THAT? FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE SAN TI SHI, THE FIRST OF THE BASIC FIVE FISTS...
THE SPLIT-TING FIST.
!!
!!!!!!

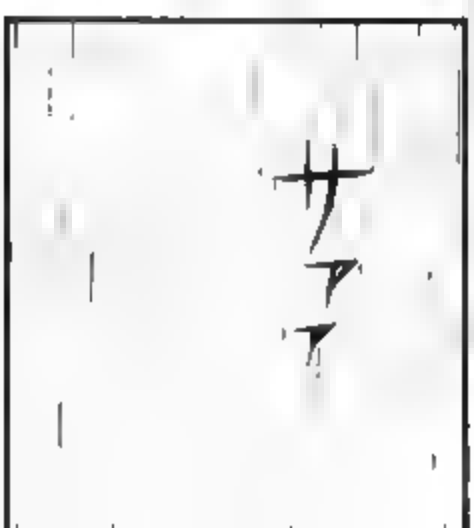

TH-THIS SHOULDN'T BE...!!
WHA ...?!

IT TOOK YOU FIVE YEARS TO LEARN THOSE TWO.
THEN THE DRILLING FIST.

IF YOU LET YOUR HAND GLIDE ALONG IT, IT IS SURE TO STRIKE THE ENEMY.
FOR THE SPLITTING FIST, THE ARM EXTENDED TOWARDS THE ENEMY IS LIKE A LAUNCHING PAD FOR A MISSILE.
WHY... WHY CAN'T I HIT HIM?!


GAH...
AND YOU REPEATED IT OVER AND OVER EVERY DAY FOR A YEAR.
WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG, YOU LIKED THAT WAY OF PUTTING IT...

... EVEN ON RAINY DAYS ...
ぱしゃん



TOGE-
THER
...
ぱしゃん
ぱしゃん
HANDS
AND
ARMS
...

TOGE-
THER
...
HANDS
AND
ARMS
...

BUT,
IT WAS
COLD
...
I WAS,
...
TOTALLY
ABSORBED
...

...
THAT'S
RIGHT,
I
REMEM-
BER
THIS
...
PUT A
BUNDLE OF
MAGAZINES
IN FRONT
OF YOUR
BELLY
LIKE THAT

TODAY
YOU WILL
EXPERIENCE
THE
CRUSHING
FIST
WHO'S
THAT
...?
MING-
HAI.

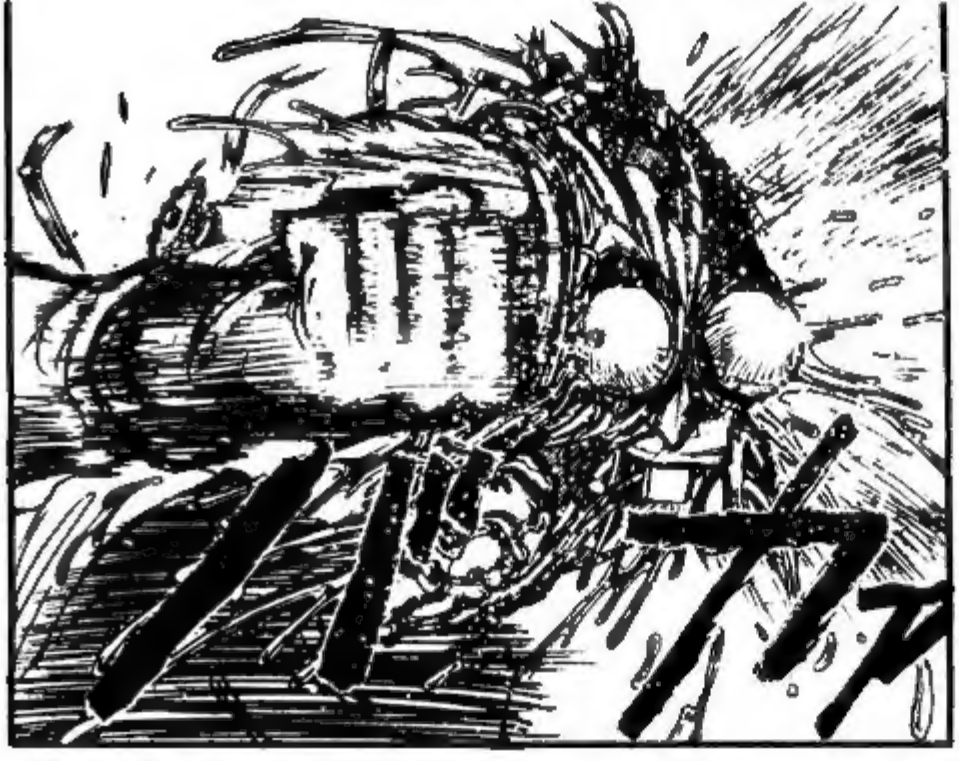
THAT YOU
WILL INFLICT
ON YOUR
OPPONENTS
IN THE
FUTURE.
YOU MUST
EXPERIENCE
FOR
YOURSELF
THE PAIN.
WHEN
YOU ARE
LEARNING
A TECH-
NIQUE...

I SHOULD BE ABLE TO KILL A SINGLE OLD HUMAAAN ...!
I DRANK THE AQUA VITAE...! I CAN MOVE AT MY TOP SPEED...!
I... SHOULD BE ABLE TO HIT HIM...
REMEMBER THIS PAIN!
DAD CAN'T FIGHT BACK WITH MING-HAI IN THE WAY.
HE'S ATTACKING AGAIN! THIS TIME HE'S COMING FROM MING-HAI'S BACK!
MING-HAI, ONLY YOU KNOW THE PAIN YOUR BODY FELT THEN.
DAD ...!

HOW ...
NO MATTER HOW FAST THE ATTACK, YOU CANNOT PERFORM IT WITHOUT TOUCHING THE AIR.
WHEN YOU MOVE, YOU SPLIT THE AIR, AND IT VIBRATES.

HOW DOES IT FEEL, MING-HAI? IT'S A PAIN SO GREAT IT'S AS IF YOUR FLESH AND BONE ARE COMING APART. THIS IS THE CRUSHING FIST THAT SHATTERS A HUMAN FROM WITHIN.
OVER MANY HUN-DREDS OF YEARS.
CHINESE KENPO HAS DEVELOPED WAYS TO LISTEN FOR THAT...

IT HURTS ... MASTER ...
IT HURTS !!!
THAT ONLY I KNOW ...
MY BODY REMEM-BERS THIS PAIN ...



MING-HAI.
YOU'RE LATE...

MAS-TER LIANG.
PLEASE EXCUSE ME...

translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

Notes:

The title of this chapter is 師父擊拳, read as *Shifu Gekiken*. 師父 has always been used as Master Liáng's title, but the furigana usually read "sensei". Here, the Chinese reading, Shīfu, is given. Attacking Fist is a rough translation of *gekiken*, which appears as part of some fictional fighting styles but is not technically a word as far as I could find.

pg. 08: The word Pantalone uses for "heart", 御心 (*mikokoro*) is a respectful word that can also refer to God's spirit or the Lord's will in Christianity.

pg. 18: The Sān tǐ shì (三體勢) is the basic fighting stance used in the Xing Yì Quán (形意拳) martial arts style. The three techniques we see in this chapter are the Pī quán (劈拳, Chopping or Splitting Fist), the Zuān quán (鑽拳, Drilling Fist), and the Bēng quán (崩拳, Crushing or Smashing Fist). Ming-Xia also used the Crushing Fist back in chapter 136.

Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.